



TOWN OF CHARLTON
37 MAIN STREET
CHARLTON, MA. 01507
508-248-2210

BOARD OF HEALTH

April 14, 2020

Members Present:

Matthew Gagner, Chairman
Kathleen Walker, Vice Chairman
Jon Sanborn, Member

Also Present:

James Philbrook-Health Director

- Chairman Matt Gagner called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m.
- Matt started out by talking about statistics of COVID-19.
- Matt and Jim started a new weekly meeting with BOS chairmen David Singer, Town Administrator Andrew Golas, Matt and Jim every Monday at 10:00 p.m. Weekly update to keep everyone in the loop. Also, meeting with Charlton BOH, Dudley BOH, DCRSD, Nichols and some Dudley Fire Fighters, school district meeting on Thursdays at 5:00 pm.
- Overlook had a few staff and patients that had sickness, but not COVID-19 symptoms. They are carefully watching it to make sure it is not COVID-19. National Guard was there last week to test the staff. Overlook is low on supply of masks. They need 1000 a week. BOH does not have access to that kind of stock. Jim Philbrook, Health Director is concerned because they just are not available. He is going to talk to Fire Chief and see what they can come up with.
- Jim went to Ted's today and handed out some masks for workers and people standing in line at deli. Social distancing was not being done. Jim emphasized that this has to be followed. Matt had reached out to them last week and they said that they were observing the social distancing. Staff is following protocol, but it is difficult to police people who come in the store. Vice Chairmen Kathleen Walker asked if there was a way to get customers masks. Store owner has ordered them. Cloth masks are also effective if people have those. Need to work on a social distancing plan for the Deli. Matt suggested calling in order ahead and just picking it up and leaving. Maybe have phone number posted outside so they can call in from outside.
- Matt mentioned the fact that he read about vaping making COVID-19 worse symptoms worse.

- Complaint at Charlton Manor this week. Jim responded to it and is working on it with DPH.
- Jim and BOH staff are working on getting PPE and grants and keeping up with cases as well.
- Wayne Marquis was next to talk about Ticks. Matt mentioned that the old method of flushing ticks is no longer valid. It is better to save it so that the tick can be analyzed. The Town website should be updated with more current information. Deet and Permethrin are most effective in defense against tick bites. He would like the Board to look at the Connecticut Agricultural Experimental Station manual, pages 35-43. The Board appreciates Mr. Marquis sharing his expertise and research on this topic. The Board would like to have a chance to read this before posting on our website. The website will have updated links either way. Will add to next agenda.
- Some of the library employees have offered to help the BOH office staff. Jim, Matt and the staff have discussed it and am not sure it is a good idea at this time. Dave Singer offered to help the BOH staff out by offering other employees that are not as busy. His intentions are good, but the confidentiality of cases is an issue and the time that it would take for training would be counterproductive. The BOS reached out to us and we know if we need help they are there for us. Matt feels we need to leave it at that and if we need them, we will reach out. Kim has been given additional hours and we are all set at this time. Matt thinks that maybe having a runner to pick up masks etc. would be helpful. Jim has to be the one to do inspections. Kim is not trained to do them yet.
- Matt is concerned that Jim needs some help from him or some time off. Jim said that he will take the time off when it is an appropriate time. Matt offered to help in any way that he can. Jim is managing well and has lots of help from the girls in the office and other area health officials. He is thankful for the Board and the residents for being so supportive. Jim stated that Andrew Golas has also offered to help. He is very caring and approachable.
- Matt did give information to Charlton Villager about the people that have donated to the Town during this crisis.
- Kathleen made motion to adjourn, Jon second all in favor 7:24 p.m.